Remarks

This Reply is in response to the Office Action mailed March 25, 2009.

I. Summary of Examiner's Rejections

In the Final Office Action dated March 25, 2009, Claims 1, 5-8, 14, 17-18, and 20-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Omoigui (U.S. Patent Number No. 7,237,254) in view of Frederick (U.S. Patent No. 5,757,424). Claims 9 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Omoigui and Frederick, in view of Takahashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,654,498 B2, hereafter Takahashi) and further in view of Rui et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,349,005 B2, hereafter Rui).

II. Summary of Applicant's Amendments

The present Reply amends Claims 1, 14, and 23, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1, 5-9, 14, and 17-24. Reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Final Office Action dated March 25, 2009, Claims 1, 5-8, 14, 17-18, and 20-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Omoigui (U.S. Patent Number No. 7,237,254) in view of Frederick (U.S. Patent No. 5,757,424). Claims 9 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Omoigui and Frederick, in view of Takahashi (U.S. Patent No. 6,654,498 B2) and further in view of Rui (U.S. Patent No. 7,349,005 B2).

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the embodiment therein. As amended, Claim 1 defines:

> *1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing audio devices located at a live event during the live event, comprising:*
>
> *capturing video content of the live event at a first location, wherein different areas of the video content, corresponding to different areas of the live event, are associated with a plurality of the audio devices located at the first location, the audio devices capturing audio originating from the different areas in the live event;*

providing the video content of the live event captured at the first location to a user at a second location during the live event wherein the video content is displayed to the user in a graphical user interface (GUI) that enables the user to select regions of the displayed video content to receive audio from different audio devices at the live event associated with the selected regions;

receiving a selection of a first region of the video content, the selection made by the user during the live event using the GUI;

selecting a first audio device at the first location associated with the at least one area within the first region of the video content; and

providing live audio from the selected first audio device at the first location to the user at the second location.

Claim 1, as amended, defines that, in the embodiment therein, a method for managing audio devices located at a live event during the live event, comprises capturing video content of the live event at a first location, wherein different areas of the video content, corresponding to different areas of the live event, are associated with a plurality of the audio devices located at the first location, the audio devices capturing audio originating from the different areas in the live event; providing the video content of the live event captured at the first location to a user at a second location during the live event wherein the video content is displayed to the user in a graphical user interface (GUI) that enables the user to select regions of the displayed video content to receive audio from different audio devices at the live event associated with the selected regions; receiving a selection of a first region of the video content, the selection made by the user during the live event using the GUI; selecting a first audio device at the first location associated with the at least one area within the first region of the video content; and providing live audio from the selected first audio device at the first location to the user at the second location.

Omoigui discloses that in a network environment, multimedia content is streamed from a server computer to a client computer via the network. (Abstract). The widespread availability of streaming multimedia enables a variety of informational content that was not previously available over the Internet or other computer networks. Live content is one significant example of such content. (Column 1, lines 40-44).

Frederick discloses a system [that] enables high-resolution videoconferencing images to be transmitted without extreme demands on bandwidth. (Abstract). It is desirable to have a realistic coordination of, for example, facial movements with simultaneous audio. (Column 3, lines 43-45).

Claim 1 has been amended to define that the embodiment therein includes a graphical user

interface (GUI) that enables the user to select regions of the displayed video content to receive audio from different audio devices at the live event associated with the selected regions. Neither Omoigui nor Frederick appear to disclose a GUI that enables a user to selectively receive audio from different audio devices. As described above, Omoigui merely discloses that streaming multimedia, including live content, is possible; while Frederick appears to disclose a system designed to minimize bandwidth requirements for videoconferencing. Applicant respectfully submits that Omoigui in view of Frederick does not disclose or render obvious a GUI that enables the user to select regions of the displayed video content to receive audio from different audio devices at the live event associated with the selected regions.

Furthermore, it was asserted in the Office Action that Frederick discloses "multiple audio devices associated with different regions of a video content." The embodiment of Claim 1 recites wherein different areas of the video content, corresponding to different areas of the live event, are associated with a plurality of the audio devices located at the first location. As described above, Frederick appears to disclose a teleconferencing system that utilizes multiple cameras to create a high resolution composite image with lower bandwidth requirements. While Frederick does appear to note that multiple microphones can be used by participants in the teleconference; Frederick does not appear to disclose that these microphones are associated with regions of the video content. Instead, Frederick appears to merely suggest that the audio feed should be synchronized with the video feed.

In view of the above comments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, as currently amended, is neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 14 and 23

The comments provided above with respect to Claim 1 are hereby incorporated by reference. Claims 14 and 23 have been amended similarly to Claim 1. For similar reasons as provided above for Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 14 and 23 are similarly neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-9, 17-22, and 24

Claims 5-9, 17-22, and 24 are not addressed separately but it is respectfully submitted that

these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim and further in view of the comments provided above. Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are similarly neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of, the cited references and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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